

REMARKS

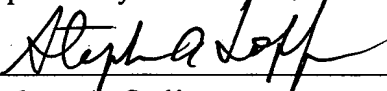
Claim 8 has been amended to delete the term "slotted" before rib on lines 3 and 10.

The change to claim 8 in the Examiner's Amendment, inserting -- slotted -- after "one" on line 3 of claim 8 to provide an antecedent basis for the term "the at least one slotted rib" recited on line 10 is not acceptable to applicant. Instead, to eliminate the antecedent basis problem, the term "slotted" should have been deleted from line 10 as set forth in the present Rule 312 Amendment. Based upon the Office Action mailed June 16, 2006, the term "slotted," a structural limitation, is not necessary to distinguish method claim 8 (as amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 10) over the prior art.

Prompt entry of the present Rule 312 Amendment is respectfully requested. Any questions concerning this Amendment should be directed to the undersigned.

Dated: December 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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